

.had reached Paris that the French army in Santo Domingo was annihilated, the island devastated, and the rebellious blacks further beyond control than they had ever been. To recover the island would now cost far more than it was worth. With it lost, Louisiana, which Bonaparte intended should feed and fortify it, was of no further use to him, and the abandonment of Louisiana would serve well to cloak the abandonment of Santo Domingo. Giving up Santo Domingo meant the severance of French traditions, and the confession of failure in an enterprise upon which the pride of the nation was staked, Bonaparte kept up appearances of a vigorous colonial policy several months longer, but his mind was made up to withdraw from the island. He declared the long contemplated war against England and sounded Talleyrand as to the expediency of selling Louisiana. The wily Minister divined the wish of his master and hurried negotiations. Livingston wrote to Madison: "Mr. Talleyrand asked me this day, when pressing the subject, whether we wished to have the whole of Louisiana. I told him no, that our wishes extended only to New Orleans and the Floridas; that the policy of France, however, should dictate to give us the country above the River Arkansas in order to place a barrier between them and Canada. He said that if they gave New Orleans the rest would be of little value, and that he would wish to know 'Svhat we would give for the whole.' I told him it was a subject I had not thought of, but that I supposed we should not object to twenty millions (francs) provided our citizens were paid. He told me this was too low

an offer. I told him that as Mr. Monroe would be in town in two days, I would delay my further offer until I had the pleasure of introducing him."

On Monroe's arrival, he and Livingston passed a week haggling over the price named by Bonaparte—one hundred millions of francs and the payment by America of their own citizens' claims. The American envoys finally succeeded in reducing it to sixty millions, and the payment of claims to the amount of twenty millions more—a total of \$15,000,000.

To Livingston more than to any other man was due a diplo-